India has urged the Government to come up with a Central Legislation to ban sex determination tests in the country; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir. A communication from the Voluntary Health Association of India has been received in this Ministry on 3rd February, 1988 through the Minister of State, Human Resource Development, Youth Affairs and Sports and Women & Child Development in this regard.

(b) A small Committee of Experts has already been constituted in this Ministry to go into the various aspects of this problem.

Incidence of Japanese Encephalitis in the country

189. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state what assistance has been provided by the Government to the States, stricken with Japanese Encephalitis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): There is no Plan scheme for providing assistance for the control of Japanese Encephalitis. However, the following assistance has been provided to the affected States:—

1. Insecticides namely DDT/BHC are supplied under NMEP (Rural) on 50:50 cost sharing basis for insecticidal spray in an area 2-3 km around a case wherever reported.

2. Fogging/ULV machines have been supplied by NMEP to affected areas.

3. Publicity/Health Education material.

4. Vaccines (Imported) had been supplied to the States by National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) on limited scale.

5. Indigenous vaccine produced at Central Research Institute, Kasauli, is being provided free of cost to the affected States for field trial purposes.

6. National Institute of Virology, Pune; School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta and National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi are involved in the programme for advice/diagnosis of cases.

Mosquito Repellents harmful to the human heart

190. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that medical studies have revealed that mosquito repellents widely used in the country are harmful to human heart;

(b) whether Government propose to issue a warning to the consumers about the effects of such repellents on health; and

(c) what are the popular brand names of these repellents, their prices and their product mix; and whether Government have any control in these matters?